



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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DA Files Charges Against Former Assessor

San Bernardino, CA - The San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office Public Integrity Unit has filed a criminal complaint against former Assessor William John Postmus and Gregory Scott Eyler, former Assessor's Taxpayer Advocate. A warrant of arrest was obtained for both men from Judge Duke Rouse and bail was set at \$350,000 for Postmus and \$100,000 for Eyler. Postmus was advised of the charges at a scheduled court appearance on his previous bail bond at 9:00 a.m. today. Judge Michael Dest withdrew the warrant for his arrest and set an arraignment and bail hearing date for Thursday, July 23. Eyler was arrested without incident by District Attorney Investigators this morning and booked into the West Valley Detention Center.

The complaint alleges 11 felonies and one misdemeanor. Counts 1 and 2 include allegations that as Assessor, Postmus employed and, with knowledge and consent, paid with public funds persons who failed to perform public services, felonies in violation of Grand Theft and Misappropriation of Public Funds (Public Officer Crime). Counts 3 and 4 allege the same violations against Gregory Scott Eyler for receiving salary for employment in the Assessor's Office without performing public services. The remaining counts all apply to Postmus. Count 5 alleges Misappropriation of Public Funds (Public Officer Crime) for the purchase of a wireless computer air card with public funds for personal use. Counts 6 and 7 allege Grand Theft and Misappropriation of Public Funds Charges (Public Officer

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Crime) for the purchase of airfare for two to Austin, Texas for a political gathering. Count 8 alleges Misappropriation of Public Funds (Public Officer Crime) for the purchase of gasoline for an automobile trip to and from Aspen, Colorado for no public purpose. Count 9 alleges Perjury for failure to disclose the receipt of a \$12,000 cashier's check on his Form 700 Statement of Economic Interest. Counts 10-12 are drug charges for Possession of Methamphetamine and Ecstasy and Possession of Paraphernalia.

The filing of charges against former Assessor Postmus, concludes the initial phase of the investigation. District Attorney Michael Ramos stated: "The District Attorney's Office has now filed felony charges against the former Assessor, the two former Assistant Assessors and two members of the Assessor's Executive Staff. I am proud of the outstanding work of the members of our Public Integrity Unit. They conducted over 100 interviews, served numerous search warrants covering multiple locations, and employed every investigative tool available to them in the course of this investigation. These challenging cases demonstrate the dedication and hard work of this fine team in bringing to the courtroom those who have abused the public trust.

Public corruption cases are difficult to prove and require extensive investigation. When we file charges, our Office must be prepared to prove our case in court, with legally admissible evidence, beyond a reasonable doubt to a unanimous jury. Sometimes the only witnesses to critical evidence are themselves involved in wrongdoing. It takes a great deal of time and effort to encourage them to come forward and tell the truth. These cases take such extensive efforts because only a careful, methodical and consistent approach has been shown to bring them to a successful conclusion.

There are those who have been frustrated that we are not discussing our investigation and sharing every new fact we uncover on a daily basis. Such an unwise approach could create legal issues that jeopardize our case and might, arguably, deprive a defendant of a fair trial. Sharing portions of our case for a good news article or quick advantage is a dangerous course that can bring down an entire investigation. I will not do that. In time, all of the facts will be revealed, and we look forward to doing so, but I will not endanger our efforts for the sake of a headline. Our investigation has disclosed additional areas that require further inquiry. It remains open and ongoing."

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